

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 SAIGON 02411 230833Z

17

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 IO-14 OMB-01 NSCE-00 EB-11

TRSE-00 ACDA-19 AID-20 SAJ-01 NIC-01 DRC-01 (ISO) W

----- 018391

R 230648Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSZ SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1994

INFO CINCPAC

AMCONGEN HONG KONG

RUMJBNPWAMEMBASSY JAKARTA 2832

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANILA

USDEL JEC PARIS

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAIGON 2411

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PBOR

SUBJECT: GVN ANNOUNCEMENT ON GARRISONING OF SPRATLY ISLANDS

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

1. THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE APPEARED IN THE FEBRUARY 23 ISSUE OF
OFFICIAL VIETNAM PRESS UNDER THE TITLE, "RVN SOVEREIGNTY OVER
SPRATLY CONSOLIDATED".

2. BEGIN TEXT: "SAIGON, (VP), FEB 22 - THE VIETNAMESE NATIONAL
FLAG IS NOW STREAMING IN THE WIND MALL ISLANDS OF THE SPRATLY

ARCHIPELAGO WHERE THE RVN ARMED FORCES HAVE JUST COMPLETED
THE CONSOLIDATION OF THE NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY OVER THIS INDIVISIBLE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 SAIGON 02411 230833Z

PART OF THE TERRITORY.

3. THE MISSION WAS CARRIED OUT WITHIN OPERATION TRAN HUNG DAO 48 LAUNCHED EARLY FEBRUARY, 1974 WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF FOUR PATROL CRAFT: DONG DA HQ 07, TRAN HUNG DAO HQ L, PHAM NGU LAO, HQ 15 AND HQ 17 AND A LANDING SHIP TANK (LST), MY THO HQ 800.

4. THE MISSION HAD BEEN DELAYED FOR NEARLY A WEEK DUE TO BAD WEATHER. ROUGH SEA AND LOW WATER LEVEL AT THE ISLANDS HAD SLOWED DOWN THE TROOPS LANDING AND SUPPLY SERVICE.

5. A REGIONAL FORCE COMPANY OF PHUOC TUY PROVINCE SPLIT INTO SMALL TEAMS GROUPING EACH FROM 20 TO 40 MEN STATIONED ON TRUONG SA (SPRATLY), SINH TON (SIN COWE9: SONG TU TAY (CAYE DU NE) AND CONCA (SAND CAY) ISLANDS. SINCE AUGUST, 1973 ABOUT 70 RF COMBATANTS HAVE UNDERTAKEN THE GUARDING OF NAM YET (NAM YIT) ISLAND WHERE THE SPRATLY DEFENSE FORCE IS HEADQUARTERED UNDER THE COMMAND OF 1ST LT. DOAN CAN TIEM.

6. THE RVN HAS DECIDED TO LEAVE UNGUARDED AN BANG ISLET (CAYE D'AMBOINE) SINCE IT IS TOO SMALL (ABOUT TWO HECTARES) AND ONLY ONE METER ABOVE THE SEA LEVEL. HOWEVER, IT IS STILL REGARDED AS PART OF THE RVN TERRITORY.

7. EACH GUARD UNIT IS PROVIDED WITH TWO SAMPANS, HUTS, BEDS, CREW-SERVED WEAPONS AND OTHER MATERIAL TO HELP IT NET SEA PRODUCTS AROUND THE STATIONING AREA FOR DAILY MEALS.

8. THE GARRISON FORCE AT THE SPRATLY, OF THE 4TH COMPANY, 371ST RF BATTALION, IS COMPOSED OF ALL COMBATANTS WHO HAVE VOLUNTEERED TO DEFEND THIS PORTION OF THE NATIONAL TERRITORY IN THE FACE OF RED CHINA'S INVASION PLOT. END TEXT.
MARTIN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TROOP DEPLOYMENT, PRESS COMMENTS, MILITARY PLANS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 FEB 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974SAIGON02411
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: SAIGON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740213/aaaaamdp.tel
Line Count: 94
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 APR 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <10 JUN 2002 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GVN ANNOUNCEMENT ON GARRISONING OF SPRATLY ISLANDS CINCPAC FOR POLAD
TAGS: PBOR, VS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005